

REMARKS

Please cancel Claims 2 and 18 without prejudice. Claims 1, 4-9, 12-17 and 19-23 are pending. Claims 1 and 17 are amended herein. No new matter is added as a result of the claim amendments.

Claims 9 and 12-16 are indicated as being allowable. Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing Claims 9 and 12-16.

103 Rejections

The instant Office Action states that Claims 1, 4-8, 17 and 19-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanson et al. ("Hanson;" U.S. Patent No. 6,442,734) in view of Ojala (U.S. Patent No. 5,655,092) and further in view of Severt et al. ("Severt;" U.S. Patent No. 5,602,750). The Applicants have reviewed these references and respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in Claims 1, 4-8, 17 and 19-23 is not shown or suggested by Hanson, Ojala and Severt, alone or in combination.

Independent Claim 1 recites "actuating said application in response to a first character entered in a first region of a handwriting recognition pad of said portable computer system and a second character entered into a second region of said handwriting recognition pad, said first region for alphabetic characters and said second region for numeric characters." Claims 4-8 are dependent on Claim 1 and recite additional limitations.

Independent Claim 17 recites "actuating said application in response to a first character entered in a first region of a handwriting recognition pad of said

portable computer system and a second character entered into a second region of said handwriting recognition pad, said first region for alphabetic characters and said second region for numeric characters" Claims 19-23 are dependent on Claim 17 and recite additional limitations.

Applicants respectfully note that the limitations cited above are similar to the limitations included in independent Claim 9, which is held to be allowable on the basis of those limitations. Specifically, as noted in the instant Office Action, the "prior art does not each or suggest a portable computer system ... where a 'handwriting recognition pad coupled to the bus' includes a 'first region for alphabetic characters and a second region for numeric characters.' This computer system also actuates an application in response to a first character entered in the first region of the handwriting recognition pad and a second character entered in the second region of the handwriting recognition pad. This application is selected according to the type of communication interface." These limitations are included in each of the independent Claims 1 and 17.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Hanson, Ojala and Severt, alone or in combination, do not show or suggest the present claimed invention as recited in independent Claims 1 and 17, and that Claims 1 and 17 are in condition for allowance. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that Hanson, Ojala and Severt, alone or in combination, also do not show or suggest the additional claimed features of the present invention as recited in Claims 4-8 and 19-23 dependent on Claim 1 or 17, and that Claims 4-8 and 19-23 are in condition for allowance as being dependent on an allowable base claim. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully assert

that the rejection of Claims 1, 4-8, 17 and 19-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed.

Conclusions

In light of the above remarks, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims.

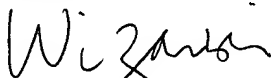
Based on the arguments presented above, the Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1, 4-8, 17 and 19-23 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, the Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these claims.

Applicants have reviewed the reference cited but not relied upon. Applicants did not find this reference to show or suggest the present claimed invention: U.S. Patent No. 5,646,865.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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